

V. REMARKS

Entry of the Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration because the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and c) places the application in better form for appeal, should an Appeal be necessary. The Amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented because it is made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. The amendments to the subject claims do not incorporate any new subject matter into the claims. Thus, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Arai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,800,147). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Arai teaches a swash plate compressor that includes a cylinder block, a plurality of cylinder bores extending through the cylinder block, a plurality of pistons received within the plurality of cylinders, respectively, front-side compression chambers formed within the cylinder bores on front sides of the pistons, respectively, a front-side discharge chamber to which refrigerant gas is delivered from the plurality of front-side compression chambers, rear-side compression chambers formed within the cylinder bores on rear sides of the pistons, respectively, a rear-side discharge chamber to which the refrigerant gas is delivered from the plurality of rear-side compression chambers, at least two refrigerant outlet passages extending through the cylinder block in a fashion parallel with the plurality of cylinder bores, for communicating the front-side discharge chamber with the rear-side discharge chamber, a head secured to a front-side end of the cylinder block or a rear-side end of the cylinder block, and a discharge port formed through the head to permit the refrigerant gas within the front-side discharge chamber and the refrigerant gas within the rear-side discharge chamber to be discharged out of the head. One of the at least two refrigerant outlet passages communicates with the discharge port. The cylinder

block is formed with a guide passage therein for communicating an intermediate portion of any of the at least two refrigerant outlet passages other than the one of the at least two refrigerant outlet passages being communicated with the discharge port, with the one of the at least two refrigerant outlet passages being communicated with the discharge port.

Amended claim 1 now recites:

A swash plate compressor, comprising:

a housing having formed therein cylinders;

a drive shaft rotatably supported at said housing;

a swash plate that is housed inside a swash plate chamber formed at said housing and rotates as one with said drive shaft; and

pistons that slide reciprocally inside the cylinder bore as said swash plate rotates,

wherein a front-side intake chamber and a rear-side intake chamber communicating with said swash plate chamber and disposed to the front and to the rear of said swash plate chamber along the axial direction, in which a working fluid to be guided into said cylinders is stored,

a front-side outlet chamber and a rear-side outlet chamber disposed to the front and to the rear of said swash plate chamber along the axial direction, in which the working fluid having been compressed by said pistons is stored,

a first gas passage and a second gas passage extending along the axial direction,

a third gas passage formed substantially symmetrical to said first gas passage relative to a plane containing said drive shaft,

a fourth gas passage formed substantially symmetrical to said second gas passage relative to the plane containing said drive shaft and communicating with said second gas passage and

an external component that includes an intake port and an outlet port to be connected to piping,

are all disposed at said housing;

wherein said first gas passage and said third gas passage communicate with said swash plate chamber;

wherein said first gas passage and said third gas passage are operative to communicate with said intake port to supply the working fluid into said front-side intake chamber and said rear-side intake chamber; and

wherein either said second gas passage or said fourth gas passage is made to communicate with said front-side outlet chamber and said rear-side outlet chamber and said second gas passage or said fourth gas passage, which is not in communication with said outlet chambers, is made to communicate with said outlet port.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each and every element of claim 1. More particularly, the applied art fails to teach that the first gas passage and the third gas passage are operative to communicate with the intake port to supply the working fluid into the front-side intake chamber and the rear-side intake chamber. In other words, both the first gas passage and the third gas passage communicate with the intake port unlike the teachings of the applied art. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the applied art.

Claims 2-8 depend from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

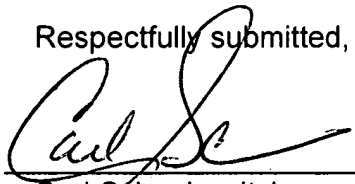
It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the prior art of record. Therefore, this Amendment is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action. Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to set forth further arguments and remarks supporting the patentability of their claims, including the separate patentability of the dependent claims not explicitly addressed herein, in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of

the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal